Claims 2-10, 20, 21, 36-39, and 46-50 are pending in the application. Claims 2-10, 20, 21, 36-39, and 46-50 stand finally rejected. No claims are allowed.

Claims 2-10, 20, 21, 36-39, and 46-50 are rejected in part under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. According to the Examiner, there is not sufficient support in the specification for "a longitudinal bend or curve within an exhaust manifold or exhaust flow pipe," as recited in claim 36. Although applicant's maintain that there is sufficient support in the specification for this limitation, in the interest of placing the claims in better form for appeal, claim 36 has been amended to delete reference to the term "longitudinal." Pursuant to 37 C.F.R § 1.116(b)(2), Applicants submit that the amendment places the claims in better form for consideration on appeal, and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested so that this application can proceed to appeal.

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CONCLUSION

It is believed that claims 2-10, 20, 21, 36-39, and 46-50 are now in condition for

allowance for the reasons provided in Applicants' previous submissions. To the extent the

Examiner disagrees, Applicants respectfully request that the amendment be entered in the

interest of narrowing the issues for appeal. No fees are believed due at this time. If any fees are

due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 05-1070. Please

contact the undersigned if any further issues remain to be addressed in connection with this

submission

Date: February 27, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By: /Scott S. Servilla, Reg. No. 40806/

Scott S. Servilla Reg. No. 40,806

Tel. No. (732) 815-0404

BASF Catalysts LLC 100 Campus Drive

Florham Park, New Jersey 07932

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